

ing uplink control information being expected to be transmitted from the user terminal, and  
 a second time interval between the uplink control information being transmitted from the user terminal and corresponding downlink retransmission at earliest being expected to be received in the user terminal;

or

wherein the hybrid automatic repeat request profile indicates

a third time interval between uplink transmission being received in a base station and corresponding downlink information being expected to be transmitted from the base station, and

a fourth time interval between the downlink information being transmitted from the base station and corresponding uplink retransmission at earliest being expected to be received in the base station;

and performing or causing performing of a hybrid automatic repeat request process in accordance with the defined hybrid automatic repeat request profile.

21. The method according to claim 20, wherein the hybrid automatic repeat request profile is predefined or defined during initial access to a cell.

22. The method according to claim 20, further comprising providing flexible hybrid automatic repeat request timing by adjusting the time reserved for processing data and related control signals in the system.

23. The method according to claim 20, wherein at least one of the uplink control information and the downlink information comprises an acknowledgement message or a negative acknowledgement message.

24. The method according to claim 20, wherein the uplink transmission comprises an uplink scheduled message.

25. The method according to claim 20, wherein the downlink information comprises an uplink scheduling grant message.

26. The method according to claim 20, wherein the hybrid automatic repeat request profile is one or more of device specific, device type specific, cell specific, and service type specific.

27. The method according to claim 20, further comprising defining a variable or fixed number of different hybrid automatic repeat request processes involved in the hybrid automatic repeat request profile.

28. The method according to claim 20, further comprising defining a variable transmission time interval TTI length for different hybrid automatic repeat request processes involved in the hybrid automatic repeat request profile.

29. The method according to claim 20, wherein multiple hybrid automatic repeat request profiles coexist in a common resource space comprising frequency and time resources.

30. The method according to claim 20, further comprising defining hybrid automatic repeat request loop timing for the user terminal based on a capability class of the user terminal.

31. The method according to claim 20, further comprising defining that the user terminal is a fast response capable user terminal or that the user terminal is a lower hybrid automatic repeat request loop delay capable user terminal.

32. The method according to claim 20, further comprising, in response to predetermined event in the system, reconfiguring a hybrid automatic repeat request loop delay dynamically for the user terminal during an active session.

33. The method according to claim 20, further comprising defining separate HARQ-ACK control channel portions in a shared control channel for user terminals having different hybrid automatic repeat request profiles.

34. The method according to claim 20, further comprising defining at least one of a size of a hybrid automatic repeat request buffer per subframe, and a maximum number of hybrid automatic repeat request processes, according to the hybrid automatic repeat request profile.

35. The method according to claim 20, further comprising defining a bi-directional hybrid automatic repeat request profile for the user terminal, the bi-directional hybrid automatic repeat request profile comprising a downlink hybrid automatic repeat request profile and an uplink hybrid automatic repeat request profile for the user terminal.

36. An apparatus comprising at least one processor; and at least one memory including a computer program code, wherein the at least one memory and the computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, cause the apparatus to define a hybrid automatic repeat request profile for a user terminal among a plurality of hybrid automatic repeat request profiles available,

wherein the hybrid automatic repeat request profile indicates

a first time interval between downlink transmission being received in the user terminal and corresponding uplink control information being expected to be transmitted from the user terminal, and

a second time interval between the uplink control information being transmitted from the user terminal and corresponding downlink retransmission at earliest being expected to be received in the user terminal;

or

wherein the hybrid automatic repeat request profile indicates

a third time interval between uplink transmission being received in a base station and corresponding downlink information being expected to be transmitted from the base station, and

a fourth time interval between the downlink information being transmitted from the base station and corresponding uplink retransmission at earliest being expected to be received in the base station;

and wherein the at least one memory and the computer program code are configured to, with the at least one processor, cause at least one of the apparatus and a second apparatus to perform a hybrid automatic repeat request process in accordance with the defined hybrid automatic repeat request profile.

37. A computer program product embodied on a non-transitory distribution medium and comprising program code configured to cause an apparatus to perform the following when the program is run on a computer:

defining a hybrid automatic repeat request profile for a user terminal among a plurality of hybrid automatic repeat request profiles available,

wherein the hybrid automatic repeat request profile indicates

a first time interval between downlink transmission being received in the user terminal and corresponding uplink control information being expected to be transmitted from the user terminal, and